

## DRAC Meeting 4/3/2024

### Attendees:

Allissa Flood, Amy Lazzell, Anne Melo, Chris Carthum, Christa Schulz, Cynthia Horne, Darren McCroom, Erin Casey, Erin Emry, Jack Herring, Julia Hawkins, Malachi Phillips, Megan Ellis, Megan McGinnis, Mica Della Sala, Michael Soran, Nicole Larson, Rax Organa, Rebecca McLean, Sebastian Mayotte, Tim Fitzpatrick, Travis Cram, Vanessa Blackburn

#### 1. Meeting Minutes

Minutes from February 21, 2024, will be presented at the next meeting.

#### 2. Budget Presentation: Student Publications

a. Julia Hawkins provided the budget narrative and Megan McGinnis presented the 2024 AY and summer budget requests.

##### b. Budget Overview

i. Student Publications is requesting only mandated administrative and student pay increases.

1. No request for additional operations funding

2. Significant increase in payroll costs due to voter-approved minimum wage increase

ii. Reallocation of administrative pay between publications

iii. Budget shortfall planning

1. Reduction in advertising revenue for the Front

2. Klipsun, Planet, Jeopardy, and Occam's Razor have earmarked funds available from previous years that can be used to offset budget shortfalls in editor pay. The Front has depleted their earmarked funds and will require a DRAC reserves request to meet payroll needs.

##### c. 2025 Summer Budget

i. Both the Summer Front and Summer Klipsun classes have been cancelled for summer 2024

ii. Western Front

1. Proposed budget for 3-4 student staff to maintain the website and produce minimal content over the summer.

2. Earmark \$3,000 of the remaining student editor pay

3. Ask from S&A Fee Committee would be decreased by 11% from last year

iii. Summer Klipsun

1. Similar student payroll expenses

2. Earmark \$3,000 of the remaining student editor pay

3. Ask from S&A Fee Committee would decrease 48% from last year

iv. The overall change from this year's Student Publications summer budget would be a reduction of 30.5%, or \$13,648.

##### d. Total budget requests

i. 2025 AY: \$433,941.44 (7.20% increase)

ii. 2025 summer budget: \$31,099.00 (30.50% decrease)

iii. Overall FY25 request: \$465,040.43 (3.44% increase)

3. S&A Fee Committee Update

- a. The S&A Fee Committee is meeting for the first time today. DRAC student representatives, Vanessa and Tim plan to attend. The meeting is open to the public.
- b. We anticipate approving the DRAC budget in late April; it is unclear how things will work at the S&A Fee Committee meetings.
- c. Rebecca underscored the need to complete the DRAC budget presentations as quickly as possible.
- d. DRAC may need to provide the S&A Fee Committee with the “DRAC: Who We Are” presentation as early as next week.

4. Discussion of Outback Farm Application

- a. Application materials shared with DRAC members via email.
- b. Vanessa provided background about the Outback Farm which is looking for a sustainable financial future after the AS removed ongoing support.
- c. Rebecca mentioned that the application for DRAC was limited to funding for student employee positions even though they have additional funding needs.
- d. Jack indicated the Provost and VP of Enrollment and Student Services have expressed strong interest in coming up with a solution for future funding. Jack indicated DRAC members should not worry about having to reduce their own budgets in order to include Outback farm.
- e. Travis recommended scheduling a time for the DRAC committee to deliberate and vote on the application; need a majority of student participants. An evaluation and rubric exist to help frame the conversation.
- f. We need to be clear with the Outback Farm about the DRAC membership timeline and processes, including the provisional membership requirement. Also need to be clear that current programs can't be defunded to support the Outback Farm in any way.
- g. Discussion about how to approach the application review given priorities and time constraints. Plan to discuss and review rubric at the April 24 DRAC meeting and ask the Outback Farm to present at a future meeting.

5. Budget Presentation Schedule for April

- a. April 10: Forensics, WWU Racing, IAA
- b. April 17: Theatre and Dance, Music, Student Publications